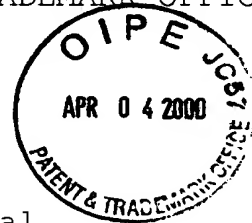


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VPI/96-16 CIP 2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Deepak Rao
Group : 1611
Applicants : Guy W. Bemis et al.
Serial No. : 09/336,266
Filed : June 18, 1999
For : INHIBITORS OF P38



New York, New York
March 27, 2000

Hon. Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the January 27, 2000 Restriction Requirement issued in the above-identified application. Applicants have petitioned concurrently herewith to extend the time for response to that action for a period of one month from February 27, 2000 up to and including March 27, 2000 and have paid the requisite fee [37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136(a) and 1.17(a)(1)].

Kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-3, 13-14 and 16-17 without prejudice.

Amend the remaining claims as follows:

In claim 4, lines 1-2, delete "any one of claims 1 to 3" and replace therefor "claim 38".